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SUBJECT: Embassy Minsk FY-07 Proposal for Television Co-Op on
Electronic Fraud

Ref: State 7720

¶1. Per reftel, Embassy Minsk submits the following nomination for
consideration in the Department's TV Co-Op program for fiscal year
¶2007.

¶2. Post would like to produce a documentary on the topic of
Electronic Fraud, and has located a local television broadcaster
that is interested and eager to have the opportunity to complete a
film on this topic.

¶3. Electronic Fraud is a challenging global issue and remains a
focus of law-enforcement authorities both in the United States and
Belarus. Our nominees would benefit from meeting with law
enforcement agencies, both local and federal (including the Secret
Service and FBI) who track this problem, as well as information
technology companies, bank managers and NGO's working in this field.
A range of electronic fraud issues will be covered, including credit
card fraud, personal identity theft and computer hacking, "phishing"
and denial of service attacks.

¶4. The topic of Electronic Fraud is of mutual interest to the
United States and Belarus. As e-commerce continues to grow in
Belarus, the amount of electronic fraud here will rise accordingly.
In addition, a disproportionate number of electronic fraud cases
originate in the area of the former Soviet Union, including Belarus,
and this documentary film will help to educate the Belarusian public
and government officials about this problem.

¶5. Post has discussed this opportunity with "Channel 2", a
non-state television broadcaster based in Mogilyov, a regional
capital in eastern Belarus, and the station's management have shown
a strong interest in this program, proposing a two-person crew to
cover this topic and agreeing to air the documentary upon the crew's
return to Belarus.

¶6. "Channel 2" was founded in 1991 and now covers a broadcast area
of approximately 30 miles around Mogilyov with a potential audience
of 500,000 people. Through its affiliation with the "TBN" television
network, it is likely that the syndicated broadcast of this
documentary could reach 3.2 million people, approximately one-third
of Belarus' total population. "Channel 2" currently employs
approximately 35 people, many of whom are alumni of a range of
training programs offered previously by IREX and Internews.
"Channel 2" is well equipped with the necessary audio/visual
equipment and will most probably film with a mini-DV camera.

¶7. "Channel 2" specifically requests that travel to the United
States take place during the summer months between June and
September.

¶8. Post will cover international airfare for the two-person crew
(journalist, camera operator). Post understands that the remainder
of expenses (domestic airfares, accommodation, M&IE) will be covered
by the Department.

STEWART